

They killed the timber industry throughout this great country. 20,000 jobs were lost in New Mexico alone. Today we have fewer than 100 of those jobs left, and they're in the process of dying probably this year. That whole response to our timber industry was a hoax.

Today we're involved in another hoax, the hoax that is sending \$700 billion a year to enemies across the seas; \$700 billion a year would be a 6 percent increase in our economy. That means more jobs. And yet instead of solving the problem, we're extending the problem through a hoax.

If we want to stop the outflow of American jobs, we need to stop the lawsuits that are killing every single new lease. They're killing mining, they have already killed the timber industry. The extremists, with litigation, are killing American jobs, and this hoax that is on the floor today called an energy bill is doing nothing about the litigation that is killing American jobs. We must stop it, and we must stop the litigation.

#### THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DESERVE BETTER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this sham, no-energy energy bill, and want to express my deep disappointment that once again, this House is missing an important opportunity to lower gas prices, and make our Nation more energy independent.

After reviewing this bill, it's clear that the majority never really intended to open the Outer Continental Shelf to energy exploration. Instead, this bill would permanently keep off-limits 88 percent of our offshore oil and natural gas reserves.

Let me tell you some of the other failings of this bill. It fails to open up more of the energy rich Gulf of Mexico. It fails to make building refineries any easier. It fails to promote nuclear energy. It fails to boost oil shale development, and it fails to open the billions of barrels of oil now off limits in ANWR.

What this bill will do is raise taxes that will surely be passed along to consumers in even higher prices at the pump.

Louisiana Senator Mary Landrieu, a Democrat, recently said it best. This bill is "dead on arrival in the Senate."

The bottom line is, this bill is a publicity stunt, and the American people deserve better.

#### THE DEFINITION OF BIPARTISAN HAS CHANGED

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, we've been hearing a lot about

change these days; certain parties claiming more change than others perhaps.

I would suggest that what has changed the most is the definition of the term "bipartisan." To say that this effort is bipartisan is not being honest. To say that the process that we're supposed to engage in 2 years ago of being the most open process in the history of Congress, not so. To criticize the executive branch for energy policies 7 years ago being drafted behind closed doors, and then to participate or not allow participation in this issue, I think, is unconscionable for the American people.

We're talking about way offshore drilling, if at all. We need broad-based energy supply.

If we think that a 9 percent approval rating of Congress is bad, let's pass a bill that won't do anything saying that it will. That is bad policy. If we expect our economy to grow, we need to afford the resources of energy to the growing economy.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to an additional 20 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side.

#### DEMOCRAT ENERGY BILL

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUNT. We're here today to talk about a bill that nobody had seen, or at least no Republican had seen as late as 9:45 last night.

No committee has seen the bill. In fact, I asked has this been to the Energy and Commerce Committee? I thought, as a member of that committee I must have missed the hearing. But, no, it hasn't been to the Energy and Commerce Committee.

And so I asked has it been to the Resources Committee because it deals with our natural resources. No, it hasn't been to the Resources Committee.

I asked has it been to the Ways and Means Committee. There's a \$1.2 billion project in this bill that the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee has wanted forever to extend subways in New York, so I thought surely it had been to the Ways and Means Committee. But it hadn't been to the Ways and Means Committee. In fact, it's been to no committee anywhere, and it does nothing.

Republicans have worked for years in this House to send good legislation to the Senate, joined by Democrats who agree with us on this issue. We worked all of August to call attention to the fact that we weren't dealing with the number one problem facing the American people, and now we have a bill that we find will not produce any more energy and we know will increase energy prices.

The renewable portfolio standards that raise everybody's electricity bill are unreasonable. But that really doesn't matter because nobody expects this bill to become law. The drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf can't really occur. But maybe that doesn't matter either because this bill's not about something that would become law.

I'm offended, Members of the House are offended, and we should be by this process. And the American people should be offended that we're not doing the job for them that really matters.

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#### DEMOCRAT ENERGY BILL IS RIGGED

(Mr. BOEHNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the announcement from the Chair that additional Members will be allowed to give 1-minutes. In fact, it was announced earlier that there would be unlimited 1-minutes, then it was announced that we would only have 30 1-minutes on each side. And I appreciate the announcement that we will have at least 20 more because our Members want to speak, and I will tell you why.

When a bill gets filed at 9:45 the night before and then it's announced it's going to come to the floor the next morning as the first bill up, a bill that no one has read, written in the dark of night, that won't do a damn thing about American energy. Enough is enough.

The Speaker of the House said this will be the most open and ethical Congress in history, that we would consider things in a fair and open way. And this is not going to be considered in a fair and open way. It shows up in the middle of the night, nobody's read the bill, and guess what? The Republican Members, who represent about 48 percent of the American people, we're not allowed to offer a substitute. We have no opportunity to offer our American Energy Plan that we've been on this floor talking about for 3 months nonstop. We don't even get a chance to offer the bill.

It's rigged, and the bill that's coming to the floor is nothing more than a hoax on the American people, and they will not buy it.

#### ENERGY BILL NOTHING BUT POLITICAL COVER

(Mr. BONNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, in words that the American people can understand, you can put lipstick on a bad bill but it is still a bad bill. And sadly, that is what your leadership's so-called energy bill is. It has been called a sham, which it is; it's been called a hoax, which it is. But the truth is, it is nothing but political cover to allow